

### Abstract

The present invention provides a brain/nerve cell protective agent comprising a substance that reduces the expression and/or activity of MIP-3 $\alpha$ , for example, an  
5 anti-MIP-3 $\alpha$  antibody or an MIP-3 $\alpha$  antisense nucleic acid, a diagnostic agent for a brain/nerve cell injury comprising a nucleic acid that encodes the antibody or MIP-3 $\alpha$ , a method for screening of a substance exhibiting brain/nerve cell protective action using MIP-3 $\alpha$  and/or  
10 CCR6, a nucleic acid that encodes MIP-3 $\alpha$  or CCR6, or an antibody against MIP-3 $\alpha$  or CCR6, a kit therefor, and the like.